(c) whether Government are considering a Code of Conducts as was there for recent elections, details thereof; and

(f) whether it is a fact that Government are considering accountablity and autonomy to the PSEs, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Performance improvement of public sector enterprises is a desirable and continuous process. Government have taken various steps like signing of MOUs with the managements of PSUs, delegation of enhanced powers, professionalisation of management, reference of sick PSUs to BIFR for formulation of revival/restructuring plans, reduction of surplus manpower through VRS, technology upgradation, research and development, energy conservation, etc. in this regard. In addition, the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments also hold performance review meetings periodically.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) There are various institutional mechanism to ensure accountablity of the public enterprises. As regards autonomy, management of PSUs enjoy large scale of autonomy under their articles of association. Government also delegate enhanced powers to the PSUs from time to time in order to ensure their operational freedom.

Setting up of Sugar Mills on Co-operative Basis

2193. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sugar mills set up in the country on co-operative basis, so far;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to set up some sugar mills in the country during 1996-97;

(c) if so, the States where these new sugar mills are proposed to be set up;

(d) whether Government have a proposal to set up some sugar mills in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to set up a sugar mill at Nawarnagpur in that State?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) As on 31.7.96, there were 247 installed sugar mills in cooperative sector in the country.

(b) and (c) During the finaancial year 1996-97, upto 31.7.96, 10 proposals have been received through the Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for setting up of new sugar mills in the country. The State-wise break-up is as under :-

Sl. No.	State	Number of proposals
1.	Uttar Pradesh	2
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Tamil Nadu	4
4.	Karnataka	3
	Total	10

(d) As on 31.7.96, 5 letters of intent issued by the Ministery of Industry for setting up of new sugar mills in the State of Orissa were pending implementation.

(e) A letter of intent was granted to M/s Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL) for establishment of a new sugar unit of 2500 TCD capacity at Nawrangpur, district Koraput, Orissa. The name in the letter of intent has been changed as M/s Orissa Sugars Ltd. to implement the project. The location of the proposed sugar factory has been changed form Newrangpur to Borigumma in the same district as per

the request of the entrepreneur.

It is the responsibility of the entrepreneur to take necessary steps towards implementation of the project.

Procurement of Foodgrains

2194. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ascertained the latest available estimates of foodgrains procurement during the period 1995-96;

(b) what was the total rice and wheat procurement;

(c) what was his Ministry's target set both for rice and wheat during 1995-96 and what is the target set for this year both for rice and wheat;

(d) whether Government have procured sufficient stocks of both wheat and rice till date;

(e) whether in view of this Government have agreed to release more wheat to the fair price shops in various States; and

(f) if so, the total quantity of wheat and rice released for export?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A quantity of 123.74 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured during 1995-96 Rabi Marketing season (April-March). During the current 1996-97 Rabi Marketing Season, a quantity of 81.81 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured upto 19.8.1996.

As regards rice, a quantity of 98.60 lakh tonnes (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured for Central pool upto 19.8.96 in the current 1995-96 Kharif Marketing Season (October-September).

(c) Procurement to wheat and paddy from the farmers for Central Pool under minimum support scheme being totally voluntary and the procurement of levy rice from millers/traders being dependent on quantum of paddy purchased by them, no targets, as such, can be fixed for procurement of foodgrains.

(d) The foodgrain stocks in Central Pool on 1st July, 1996 and the minimum buffer stock required on that date are as under :

(In million tonnes)

Buffer stock		Actual stock	
wheat	Rice	wheat	Rice
13.1	9.2	19.2	16.4

vised to take immediate action against some officials of RINL who were found to have been directly involved. Accordingly, departmental proceedings were in ititated against three officails, two of whom were placed under suspension and also explanations were called from two more officials of Fianace Division of RINL.

Subsequently, the Additional Director General of Foreign Trade and the adjudicating authority cancelled all the ten advance licences issued to RINL vide